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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/042,794	01/09/2002	Jon Anthony Bell	RSW920010175US1	5106
7590	12/17/2004		EXAMINER	
Jerry W. Herndon IBM Corporation, T81/062 PO Box 12195 Research Triangle Park, NC 27709			ROMANO, JOHN J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2122	

DATE MAILED: 12/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/042,794

Applicant(s)

BELL ET AL.

Examiner

John J Romano

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>01/09/2002</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims **1-28** are pending in this action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

1. The claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter, i.e., a program listing per se. It is suggested that claim **10** be incorporated with "A computer-readable medium comprising...", or the like, in order to be directed toward statutory subject matter. For the interest of compact prosecution, examiner treats claim **10** as "A computer-readable medium comprising a first executable code...".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims **1-3, 7-11, 14-16, 18-20, 24-26** and **28** are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Mackin et al., US 6,728,877 (hereinafter **Mackin**).

4. In regard to claim **1**, **Mackin** discloses:

- *"A method of migrating configuration data from a first executable product to a second executable product..."*, (E.g., see Figure 1 & Column 4, lines 14-17).
- *"...instructing the first executable product to provide a file containing selected configuration data..."*, (E.g., see Figure 3 & Column 7, lines 20-22), wherein the first executable product is the combination of the extraction application and the application on the source computer.
- *"...and producing, by the first executable product, the file containing the selected configuration data in a format acceptable to the second executable product."*, (E.g., see Figure 3 & Column 7, lines 22-33).

5. In regard to claim **2**, the rejection of base claim **1** is incorporated. **Mackin** further discloses:

- *"...reading the file by the second executable product; and configuring the second executable product for operation using the selected configuration data contained in the file."*, (E.g., see Figure 6B & Column 14, lines 40-45), wherein it is inherent, that after the configuration settings are infused, the second executable file will utilize and thus read them.

6. In regard to claims **3**, the rejection of base claim **1** is incorporated. Furthermore **Mackin** discloses:

- *"...modifying the first executable product to respond to a command by an external agent..."*, (E.g., see Figure 3 & Column 8, lines 9-12), wherein

the first executable product would be responding to an external event,
such as a key on a keyboard.

7. In regard to claim 7, the rejection of base claim 1 is incorporated. **Mackin** further discloses:

- "...*modifying the file produced by the first executable product, wherein additional data is incorporated into the file for purposes of configuring the second executable product.*", (E.g., see Figure 7 & Column 15, lines 11-26), wherein the configuration settings or configuration file produced by the first executable product is reformatted to conform with the target.

8. In regard to claim 8, the rejection of base claim 7 is incorporated. **Mackin** further discloses:

- "...*performed by editing the file.*", (E.g., see Figure 4 & Column 9, lines 49-57), wherein the user edits the file before it is applied to the target computing system.

9. In regard to claim 9, the rejection of base claim 7 is incorporated. **Mackin** further discloses:

- "...*a third executable product.*", (E.g., see Figure 7 & Column 15, lines 19-26), wherein the preparation application is the third executable product.

10. In regard to claim 10, the rejections of claim 1 and 3, are incorporated.

Furthermore, **Mackin** discloses:

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- "...a function for... ", (E.g., see Figure 4 & Column 7, lines 54-60), wherein it is inherent that the steps described by **Mackin** are implemented in objects in his object-oriented embodiment, in order to be ^{operational} effective.

11. In regard to claim **11**, the rejections of claim **3** and base claim **10**, are incorporated.

12. In regard to claim **14**, the rejection of base claim **10** is incorporated. **Mackin** further discloses:

- "...*the external media are persistent*.", (E.g., see Column 15, line 19).

13. In regard to claim **15**, the rejection of base claim **10** is incorporated. **Mackin** further discloses:

- "...*disk files*.", (E.g., see Column 5, line 63 – Column 6, line 1).

14. In regard to claim **16**, the rejection of base claim **10** is incorporated. **Mackin** further discloses:

- "...*data is obtained from one or more internal control blocks*.", (E.g., see Column 5, lines 50-67).

15. In regard to claim **18**, the rejections of claims **3**, **10** and **15** are incorporated.

Furthermore, **Mackin** discloses:

- "...*means for outputting the file to a selected location*...", (E.g., see Figure 7 & Column 6, lines 1-6), wherein, "distributing among multiple interconnected processing systems" inherently involves outputting data or a file to a different or selected location.

- "...computer readable program code means for reading contained in the second computer process.", (E.g., see Figure 7 & Column 6, lines 35-37).

16. Claim **19** is a system version of the method claim of claim **2**. Thus, the rejections of claim **2** are respectively incorporated in claim **19**.

17. Claim **20** is a system version of the method claim of claim **10**. Thus, the rejections of claim **10** are respectively incorporated in claim **20**.

18. In regard to claim **24**, the rejections of base claim **19** and claim **3** are incorporated.

19. In regard to claim **25**, the rejections of base claim **19** are incorporated.

Furthermore, **Mackin** discloses:

- "...second computer product is a replacement for the first computer product..." (E.g., see column 1, lines 24-26).

20. In regard to claim **26**, the rejection of claims **1** and **15** are incorporated.

21. In regard to claim **28**, the rejections of base claim **26** are incorporated.

Furthermore, **Mackin** discloses:

"...wherein the storage media comprises one or more of disk, volatile memory, CDROM, and EEPROM." (E.g., see column 5, line 63 – column 6, line 1).

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22. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

23. Claims **12**, **13** and **17** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Mackin** in view of Green et al., US 5,969,704 (hereinafter **Green**).

24. In regard to claim **12**, the rejection of base claim **10** is incorporated. But **Mackin** does not disclose expressly "...a batch file.". However, **Green** discloses:

- "...a batch file." (E.g., see Figure 6 & Column 4, lines 18-19).

Mackin and **Green** are analogous art because they are both concerned with the same field of endeavor, namely executable software on a computer apparatus.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to someone of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to implement a batch file to perform **Mackin's** method wherein, the external agent is a scripted command issued through execution of a batch file. The motivation to do so was taught by **Mackin's** disclosure of the transition application programmers interface or (API), (Column 6, lines 38-51). **Mackin** further teaches scripted files and file system I/O, which also implies batch files (Column 8, lines 9-12).

Thus, it would have been obvious, to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to implement a scripted command by execution of a batch file.

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25. In regard to claim **13**, the rejection of base claim **10** is incorporated. But **Mackin** does not disclose expressly "...a system scheduler that issues the command at a predetermined time.". However, **Green** discloses:

- "...a system scheduler that issues the command at a predetermined time." (E.g., see Column 4, line 64 – Column 5, line 37).

26. In regard to claim **17**, the rejection of base claim **16** is incorporated. But **Mackin** does not disclose expressly "...constructed by the first executable code using configuration files and command line parameters". However, **Green** discloses:

- "...constructed by the first executable code using configuration files and command line parameters.", (E.g., see Column 5, lines 1-50), wherein the schedule file is interpreted as a configuration file and the file is transferred to RAM or internal control block, (Column 6, line 11), where it is processed.

27. Claims **4, 6, 21, 22** and **27** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Mackin** in view of Weschler, Jr., US 6,757,720 B1 (hereinafter **Weschler**).

28. In regard to claim **4**, the rejection of base claim **1** is incorporated. But **Mackin** does not disclose expressly "...providing a parameter recognized by the first executable product". However, **Weschler** discloses:

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- "...providing a parameter recognized by the first executable product."

(E.g., see Figure 3 & Column 10, line 66 – Column 11, line 24),

wherein modules are plugged in by specifying a parameter.

Mackin and **Weschler** are analogous art because they are both concerned with the same field of endeavor, namely a method to programmatically configure a new software application. Therefore, at the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine plug-in modules with **Mackins** method of configuring a application. The motivation to do so would have been to enhance, override or overload basic functionality and behavior of an existing program implemented as built-in functions (**Weschler**, Column 11, line 20). Furthermore, **Mackin** teaches plug-in modules to increase functionality as well. (Column 6, lines 16-22).

29. In regard to claim **6**, the rejection of base claim **4** is incorporated. Furthermore **Weschler** discloses:

- "...recognized during normal operation of the first executable product.",

(E.g., see Figure 3 & Column 11, lines 10-24).

30. In regard to claim **21**, the rejections of base claim **19** are incorporated.

Furthermore **Weschler** discloses:

- "...internal tables.", (E.g., see Figure 3 & Column 7, lines 48-51).

31. In regard to claim **22**, the rejections of base claim **19** are incorporated.

Furthermore **Weschler** discloses:

- "...file.", (E.g., see Figure 3 & Column 7, lines 52-55).

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32. In regard to claims **27**, the rejections of claim **26** are incorporated. Furthermore,

Weschler discloses:

- "...external tables." (E.g., see Figure 2), wherein, the external data store is the external tables.

33. Claims **5** and **23** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Mackin** in view of **Weschler** and further in view of obviousness.

34. In regard to claim **5**, the rejection of base claim **4** is incorporated. But **Weschler** does not disclose expressly "...*recognized at initial startup of the first executable product.*" However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, through **Weschler's** teaching of initializing the plug-in modules via a parameter, when the configuration manager object is instantiated (E.g., see Column 11, lines 5-8), to implement this method upon start-up. It is common practice and would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made to initialize any program upon start-up as this feature has been an option in most operating systems. The motivation to do so would have been to extend the functionality of the method disclosed by **Mackin**, by implementing a common and well known method of parameter initialization upon start-up.

35. In regard to claim **23**, the rejections of base claim **19** and claim **5** are incorporated.

Conclusion

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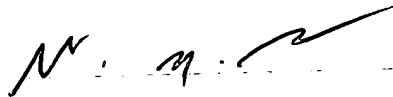
36. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Hunter et al., US 6,161,176

37. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John J Romano whose telephone number is (571) 272-3872. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5:30, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tuan Q Dam can be reached on (571) 272-3695. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


WEI Y. ZHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER